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# bob cromie



## A Literary Potpourri

• IT IS A SATISFACTION to see a fine magazine continue to flourish, and the current issue of Atlas is, as usual, an interesting one. Atlas, in case you don't know it, is a magazine published in New York which carries articles and brief comments from around the world. Or, as the magazine itself puts it:

"Atlas takes its name from the Titan who held up the heavens. Our own more modest purpose is to hold the world up to our readers. We frequently do not agree with the ideas and opinions that appear in these pages. But they reflect what the rest of the world is thinking and it is vitally important for Americans to know what those thoughts are."

The May issue, for example, carries articles out of Paris, Toronto, Hamburg, Santiago, London, Moscow, Milan, Buenos Aires, Bratislava, Kaduna [Nigeria], Hong Kong, Stuttgart, Nairobi, Frankfurt, Manila, Jerusalem, Damascus, and Zurich, as well as cartoons from a variety of cities and on a variety of topics.

• ONE OF THE PLEASANT things about browsing thru the pages of Atlas is its unpredictability. There are pieces on "The Vatican as a World Power" [from L'Actualite, Paris], which has some astonishing figures on the church's holdings in the United States and its speculations in real estate in New York, Florida, and the Bahamas; on Jean Boquin, the new "fashion king" in Paris [from Stern, Hamburg]; Canada's Wet, and the United States Is Getting Awfully Dry" [from Maclean's, Toronto], a thoughtful look at the diversion of Canadian water to its neighbor below the border, and "The Cocoanut Monk's Magic Island" [Far Eastern Economic Review, Hong Kong], a feature on an out-of-the-war island to which Vietnamese deserters from both sides are welcome.

In addition, there are, from Christ und Welt, Stuttgart, a study of the failing Russian economy which, the writer believes, will lead to some energetic political repercussions; from The Daily Nation, Nairobi, an explanation of why many leading South African industrialists would like permission to use more blacks in skilled and professional occupations, where there is now a shortage, and, from Neue Rundschau, Frankfurt, an article titled "Some Freudian Slips by the Old Master Himself," which purports to show that Sigmund Freud also had hangups as a teen-ager.

• ELSEWHERE YOU WILL FIND a review of a political [or propaganda] film, "The People and Their Rifles," which deals with Laos, was made by a Dutch film maker "with Marxist views," and—as yet—has not been authorized for showing outside of France. A review of "The Sound of Music" is written by a Filipino journalist, who considers it, "along with the CIA, a dangerous American weapon."

A regular department in Atlas called "Talk of the World," offers some amusing and alarming viewpoints on a mixture of things, compressed into a paragraph or so.

Yugoslavia postal workers held a contest, you will discover, to see how fast a message could be delivered between Zagreb and Lyublana, a distance of 80 miles. Result: Automobile, one hour and 32 minutes; postal pigeon, two hours, 49 minutes; telegram, two hours, 50 minutes; telephone, six hours!

And, in closing, this bit of graffiti was found scribbled on a hallway wall at Nanterre university during a student riot: "I was here. Wait for me."

It was signed: Godot.